#### The Ins and Outs, Ups and Downs of Accreditation

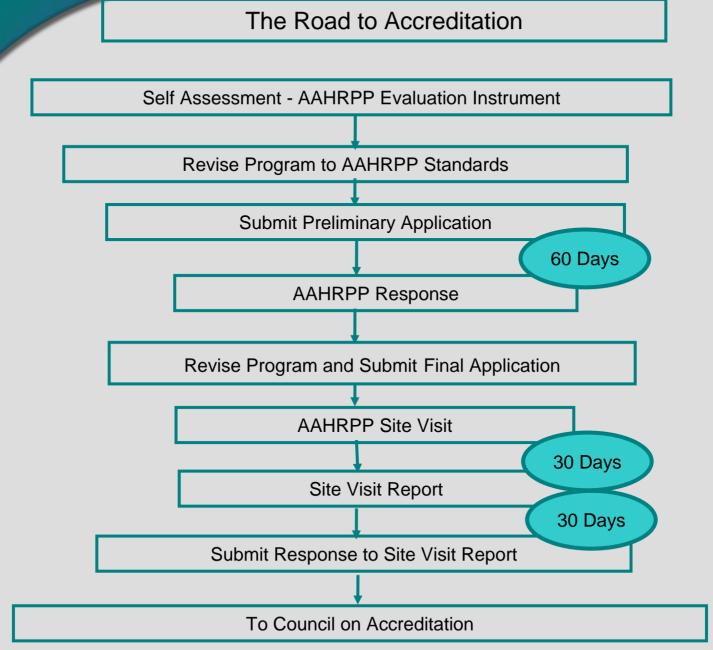
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# **Getting Started**

- Get management buy-in
- Establish Accreditation Team
- Create AAHRPP Manual
- Read everything
- Go to conferences
- Establish a time line (and stick to it)

## **Application Outline**

Section A - Application Form

Section B - Program Overview

Section C - Element by Element Index

Section D - Supporting Documents

Final Application:

Section E - IRB Minutes

Section F - IRB Roster

Section G - Active Protocols

#### 5 Domains 20 Standards 77 Elements

- Organization (5S 26E)
- Research Review Unit (8S 3E)
- Investigators (2S 11E)
- Sponsored Research (3S 5E)
- Participant (Community) Outreach (2S-4E)

# **Tips**

- Site regulations and quote verbatim Do Not paraphrase
- Review all directions/forms for consistency
- Do not create unnecessary policies and procedures
- Use simple, consistent formats
- Write once, refer many (WORM)
  - Reporting
  - Use same procedures. Example: Expedited Review
    - Initial Review
    - Modifications/Changes
    - Continuing Review
- Plan for implementation of promised changes
- Communicate with AAHRPP and use their Tip Sheets
- Use OHRP Charts

## **Hot Spots**

- Conflict of Interest
  - Institutional
  - IRB Members/Consultants
  - Researchers/Immediate family members
- FDA
- Vulnerable Subjects
- Notifications and Reporting
- Appropriate IRB Expertise
- Community Outreach
- Continued Program Assessment

#### **AAHRPP Focus - Outcome**

- Strong Organizational awareness and support
- Clear lines of communication, authority and responsibility
- Policies and procedures:
  - Meet regulatory requirements
  - Appropriate for program needs
  - Clearly documented, communicated, implemented and enforced
  - Adhered to in actual practice as demonstrated during site visit

# **Challenges**

- Painfully long and frustrating process
  - Demand on staff time and resources
  - Maintaining routine work duties
- Typically 2-3 years
  - Initial state of program
  - Number of staff assigned
  - Other responsibilities/demands
  - Council's determination (Qualified?)
- Must be maintained

#### Is it Worth It?

#### **Excellent Way to Improve Program**

- Forces in-depth program assessment
  - New and improved
    - policies and procedures
    - documentation of policies and procedures
  - Standardization and consistency
  - Better understanding and implementation of the regulations
  - Prompted IRB training
  - Encourages continual improvement
    - Plan to streamlined program
- Enhanced communication and awareness of HRPP
- Client recognition/expectation?
- IRB and Research staff excited to participate/anxious for outcome